

## CLAIMS

1           1.     A method in a computer system for distributing user information for  
2 registered users from the computer system to collection kiosks, the method comprising:  
3           providing user information for registered users;  
4           receiving updates to the user information;  
5           generating update user information;  
6           for each of the collection kiosks,  
7                 receiving a request from the collection kiosk for the generated update  
8 user information;  
9                 sending to the requesting collection kiosk the update user information  
10            wherein the collection kiosks use the update user information to verify whether  
11 a user is registered.

1           2.     The method of claim 1 wherein the collection kiosks operate as FTP  
2 clients and the computer system operates as an FTP server.

1           3.     The method of claim 1 wherein the received update user information  
2 includes indications of whether to add a registered user, delete a registered user, or change  
3 information relating to a registered user.

1           4.     The method of claim 1 wherein a collection kiosk sends a request for the  
2 generated update user information once a day.

1           5.     The method of claim 1 wherein the user information includes a user  
2 identifier and a password.

6. A method in a collection kiosk for retrieving updated user information, the method comprising:  
providing user information for registered users;  
sending a request for updated user information;  
in response to sending the request, receiving the updated user information; and  
updating the provided user information for the registered user in accordance with the received updated user information so that the collection kiosk can verify whether a user of the collection kiosk is registered.

7. An information collection system comprising:  
a central computer system for a web site, the central computer system providing a repository for the information, web pages for registering users of the web site, and for accessing the information; and  
a plurality of collection kiosks for collecting information about users, for verifying whether a user is registered at the web site, and for sending the collected information to the central computer system when the user is registered.

8. The information system of claim 7 wherein the information is medical information.

9. A computer-based method for collecting medical information of users of a web site, the method comprising:  
registering the users at the web site when information about a user is collected at one of a plurality of collection kiosks,  
determining whether the user is registered at the website; and  
when registered, sending the collected information to a computer system so that the collected information is accessible to the user through the web site.